

Progressive Vegetable Woman Farmer- A Success Story through Adoption of New Technologies

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Introduction

The success of any farmer depends upon the management practices and the market demand; hence it is necessary for the farmer to choose the crop for cultivation as per the market demand. Krishna kala is undergraduate but her interest for agriculture has brought her into farming. Though she has only one acre of land and solo crop could not fetch much profit to her. She visited KVK, Wyrā for technical assistance eventually with the guidance of scientists of KVK, Wyrā made progressive changes in method of cultivation practices.

She is cultivating the crops in her own land and leased 5 acres of land in which she grows vegetables and green leafy vegetables in 1 acre of land and chilli on 1 acre, marigold on 1 acre of land, and cotton on 3 acres. This multi cropping method helps increase agricultural output, diversify crop mixes, and increase in land yield, in addition this method also helps to use resource efficiently and diversify the income.

Krishna kala a young woman farmer from Balapet village in Thallada mandal, Khammam district, Telangana state is an enthusiastic, educated, and highly determined farmer with sheer grit. Initially, she used to cultivate only cotton crops in her own one acre and 3 acres of leased land, but was unable to fetch good yield and income. She participated in training programs conducted at KVK, Wyrā developed an interest in multi cropping methods and different management practices for different crops. Nevertheless, unlike other farmers who cultivate sole crop she practices vegetables and green leafy vegetables in the field.

Starting with the land preparation, she grows green manures, this practice enriches the soil by adding fresh/dried plant residues without rotting in the soil these contribute to the sustainability of agroecosystems through different ways, allows improving the N-uptake effectiveness and decreasing N leaching losses She grows green manure in the field and incorporate them in the field. Primitively with cotton in the second fortnight of June, cotton sowing begins, for effective control of sucking pests in cotton she practiced farmer friendly



technology i.e stem application in cotton, In this method stem application of systemic insecticides with imidacloprid is smeared at stem to control the pests like white fly, thrips, jassids etc. and installed pheromone traps for management of pink boll worm.

Additionally, in chilli crop she raises seedlings on her own nursery in raised bed method with the suggestion given by SMS(Horticulture) for quality seedlings. To prevent the incidence of soil borne diseases, the soil application of Farm yard manure enriched with *Trichoderma viride* and *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, and seed treatment with *Trichoderma Viride* 10g/seed, installation of blue and yellow sticky traps as part of Integrated crop management is exercised, the fertilizers are applied based on the recommendations.

In the marigold crop observing the patterns of festivities and demand for the flowers falling during the months of September to January, she has planned staggered sowing in drip method, later and she sells the flowers on the road that fetch a good price as she ensures quality produce. In addition to tomato cultivation in trellis method along with mulch and drip irrigation, farmer has arranged poles in their farmland, and they are attached to iron strings, strong poles have been erected at the ends of fields so that they are attached to the inner poles in the field for strengthening the poles, then, they planted saplings attached to poles in the field. The sapling will grow vertically, and fruit will not touch the ground in trellis farming. This method is advantageous to normal method of cultivation as the **trellises** has the ability to maximize space in the garden. By using a trellis system, plants grow upward instead of spreading horizontally. The support structures allow plants to climb, which h not only saves space but also promotes more orderly and accessible growth.

Furthermore, by elevating the plants, increase the exposure to sunlight, light reaches all parts of the plant more evenly, promoting more balanced development. This adequate exposure to light can cause fruit to ripen more evenly, resulting in a better-quality crop. The plants help avoid competition for light, ensuring each plant receives the optimal amount it needs to thrive and quality produce. Addition to trellis method the mulching and drip irrigation is also being practiced in tomato crop. She exercises the fertigation method collectively in tomato and marigold for the efficient use of fertilizer as water is highly critical to sustain agricultural production. Fertilizers applied under traditional methods are generally not utilized efficiently by the crop. In fertigation, nutrients are applied through emitters directly into the zone of maximum root activity and consequently fertilizer-use efficiency can be improved over conventional method. She also grows green leafy vegetables that includes gogu, Indian sorrel,

Spinach, Amaranthus and sells them in road.

Krishna kala realised the importance of multi cropping system is far more productive than monoculture and bolster ecosystem, resilience and enhance income.

Crop wise agricultural Technologies adopted, cost of cultivation, gross returns, net returns per acre

Crop	Yield	Cost of cultivation (Rs./acre)	Gross returns (Rs./acre)	Net returns (Rs./acre)
Cotton	13 quintals/acre	99,450 from 3 acres	86,060/- (1 acre) from 3 acres 2,58,180/-	52,910/- (1 acre) from 3 acres 1,58,730/-
Chilli	22 quintals/acre	1,04,840/-	3,80,600/-	Rs 2,75,760/-
Tomato	21 tonnes	1,10,000/-	6,30,000/-	Rs 5,20,000/-
Green Leafy Vegetables		20,000/-	55,000/-	Rs 35,000/-
Marigold	2.15 tonnes	80,000/-	1,50,000/-	Rs 70,000/-



Seedling in chilli nursery



Green leafy vegetable farming



Tomato trellis method



Marigold cultivation in the farmer field



Green leafy vegetables cultivation

